

Museum Quarterly Report  
April –June 2004

**Overview**

The museum hosted the exhibit “Choices” through January 24 2004. Staff members continue to work on completion of the Lewis & Clark traveling exhibits, which are due later this spring. The museum staff has also been active in planning for the new education shelter. The shelter will be built later this summer in Pioneer Village. The museum is an active member of the “ Cultural Network (CN)” In Boise and staff members have been busy working on the annual Cultural Triathlon, starting in late spring. We have been working with CN members in preparing for the National Park Service exhibit “Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future “ coming to Boise in May of 2006.

\*The Cultural Network is a consortium of Museums, Libraries, educational institutions and service organizations collaborating to schedule and promote programs, exhibits and activities of interest to Idaho residents and visitors. Our members include Ada Community Library, Boise Public Library, Basque Museum, Cultural Center, Boise Art Museum, and Zoo Boise. There are also many other organizations in the area.

**Personnel**

The Museum’s Staff Assistant, Cindy Allen as been replaced by Teresa McRoberts, Teresa was formerly with Administration. Cindy and her husband will be managing an RV resort in Nevada.

**Gift and Donations**

We had 20 donations in the past quarter. An interesting gift, given by Robert Hansberger, was a wooden propeller from a 1910 Curtis Biplane. In 1912, Silas Christofferson piloted the plane; who performed at the Malheur County Fair in Ontario, Oregon. He was to appear in the Gem County fair in Emmett but was forced to land in a pasture in city limits. This destroyed the aircraft and the Biplane propeller is all that remains.

**Travel**

In state:

John Dadabay conducted an exhibit planning and building workshop at Post Fall’s Historical Museum.

Kurt Zwolfer traveled to Idaho Falls in March for the regional history day contest and conducted school programs in Payette and Notus. In April, he also attended the Idaho Museum Association conference in Lewiston.

Out of state:

Jody Ochoa participated in Tacoma’s 2004 Western Museum Association annual conference. They will be holding their conference in Boise in 2006.

**Exhibits and traveling trunks**

The “On the Road with Lewis & Clark” grant will continue through June of 2004. The trunks have a full schedule through June of 2004.

The traveling exhibits are also busy going out to several schools and other educational facilities. The new traveling exhibit of Nez Perz Parfleches is on stand by for scheduling to schools and is an interesting exhibit to see. We will advertise on our website the availability of the four Nez Perz trunks.

**Brown Bag Lectures**

The brown bag lectures have been well received again this quarter with an average of 130 participants at each one.

**Events this quarter**

**Upcoming Events**

Mar 16	IHPC Annual meeting-Milan Kovach
April 13	Brown Bag-L&C-Kurt Zwolfer
April 15	History Day reception at the Museum
April 16	History Day
April 23-25	Mini LesBois
April 30	Honor Society 6pm-Stacy Irving
May 1	Jim Rhonda (Archeology week)-Mary Ann Davis
May 6	Idaho Banking Association-6-9pm-Cary Dingman
May 11	Brown Bag-Planning and Association –6-9pm-presented by WM Hudnuff
May 22	IHPC-Milan Kovach
May 25	Flint knapping at NW Nazarene College-Cindy Baldwin
June 10-12	AASLH Workshop
June 12-18	Historical History Day, D.C.-Kurt Zwolfer

## **Education**

Personnel

Intern-Abby Buckmaster

## **Program Updates**

- *Museum Programs-* Preparation is under way to develop two education camps for this summer season. The first camp takes place July 12-16 and will be a partnership with Zoo Boise. The theme will be Lewis and Clark. The second camp will be during the month of July 19-23 and the partnership will be with The Boise Art Museum. The theme will be around artifacts and archeology.
- *History day-* In March Kurt attended two of the five regional history day competitions. The Boise and Idaho Falls regions were well attended. The Boise region has grown in the last few years. Dividing the region into two should be a consideration. Preparations for the state contest on April 16 are currently under way. In the next quarterly report, Kurt should be able to report on the 2004 attendance and the program's financial situation.
- *Prospector Club-* Close to 100 teachers has signed up for the club this year. This month Kurt will be sending out surveys asking what teachers think of the new changes to the program. This summer Kurt will review their comments and tweak the program to meet with their expectations.
- *Volunteer Social-*February, the museum and the Old Pen held a joint volunteer orientation day in recruiting new people. The event was well attended; several new volunteers returned to attend each institution's training session.
- *Teachers Workshop-*The museum has collaborated with The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission and The Idaho Department for Social Studies Education in planning a teacher's workshop on Lewis and Clark in December.
- *Other-* In March 4-6, the museum education program participated in the Idaho Environmental Education Conference. Kurt participated by having an Information booth and gave a Lewis and Clark presentation. In April 1-3, at the Idaho Museum Associations Meeting, he also participated in a panel discussion on recruiting and retaining volunteers. In aiding the National Academic Decathlon on April 14, the museum will setup educational displays on Lewis and Clark and Fur trapping.

## **Historic Sites**

Preliminary design work for Rock Creek Station Interpretation Center is still undergoing initial review process. The Guard Tower #2 roof is completed but work is still being done on the geothermal pump house roof. The electricians are working on the new wiring on the Doney and Hatch houses and wiring will be finished in April.

## **Old Idaho Penitentiary**

### **Visitation**

This quarter the Old Idaho Penitentiary had 2,661 visitors.

### **Education**

This quarter 27 educational groups with a total of 843 students and chaperones visited the Old Idaho Penitentiary.

### **Volunteers**

This quarter 18 volunteers donated 424.75 hours of their time to the Old Idaho Penitentiary.

Respectfully submitted by

Kenneth J. Swanson

Administrator

Idaho State Historical Museum and sites